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infirm people ; on the contrary, such are treated with especial kindness, receiving a share of the food which they are unable to procure for themselves." ¹ The Jekris, in the Niger Protectorate, "have great respect for their fathers, chiefs, and old age generally. Public opinion is very strong on these points." ² The Indians on the northwest coast of North America "have great respect for the aged, whose advice in most matters has great weight." ³ "Great is the respect for the aged" amongst the Chavantes/a Ges-tribe of Brazil. ⁴ Cranz ⁵ says that the Greenland Eskimo take care of their old parents. "The Ossetines [of the Caucasus] have the greatest love and respect for their parents, for old age in general, and for their ancestors. The authority of the head of the family, the grandfather, father, stepfather, uncle, or older brother is unconditionally recognized. The younger men will never sit down in the presence of elders, will not speak loudly, and will never contradict them." ⁶ "A young Kalmuck never dares show himself before his father or mother when he is not sober. He does not sit down in the presence of old people, drawing his legs under him, which would be a gross familiarity, but he squats on his knees, supporting himself with his heels in the ground. He never shows himself before old people without his girdle. To be without a girdle is extreme negligence." ⁷ Maine ⁸ says: "A New Zealand chief, when asked as to the welfare of a fellow-tribesman, replied, 'He gave us so much good advice that we put him mercifully to death.' This gives a good idea of the two views which barbarous men take of the aged. At first they are considered useless and burdensome, and fare accordingly; later a sense of their wisdom raises them to a place of high honor." It is evident that the statement here made, of the relation in time of the two ways of treating the old, is not correct. The cases above cited are nearly all those of savages and barbarians. The people of higher civilization will be found amongst those of the other mores to be cited below (see sec. 335).

332. "The position of the Roman father assured him respect and obedience as long as he lived. His unlimited power of making a will kept his fate in his own hands." ⁹

The power in his family which the law gave him was very great, but his sons never paid him affectionate respect. "It is remarkable that we do not hear so often of barbarous treatment of old women as of old men. Could love for mothers have been an effective

¹ Spencer and Gillen, *Native Tribes, Cent. Austr.*, 51.

² JAI, XXVIII, 109.

⁶ von Haxthausen, *Transkaukasien*, II, 35.

⁸ *U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 1888, 240. ⁷ *Russian Ethnog. (Rus's!)*, II, 445-

* Martius, *Ethnog. Brasil* 274.

⁸ *Early Law and*

Custom, 23.

⁶ *Hist. von Gronland*) 197.

⁹ Lippert, *Kulturgesch.* I, 241.